Amendments to the Claims

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in this application.

Listing of Claims

1-15. **(Canceled)**

16. **(Currently amended)** A method of screening for a bioactive agent that modulates IgE production, said method comprising:

a) contacting, under conditions permissive for expression of an IgE fusion protein, a candidate bioactive agent and a cell, said cell comprising a genome which has been modified to express an IgE fusion protein under the control of an IL-4 inducible IgE promoter comprising the sequence set forth as SEQ ID NO:1, said IgE fusion protein comprising:

i) an ε heavy chain; and

ii) a fluorescent protein,

and

b) determining the amount of said IgE fusion protein expressed by said cell;

wherein a difference in the amount of said IgE fusion protein expressed in the presence of said candidate agent as compared to the amount expressed in the absence of said candidate agent indicates that said agent modulates IgE production.

17. **(Previously presented)** A method according to claim 16 wherein said candidate agent decreases the expression of said IgE fusion protein.

18. **(Canceled)**

19. **(Previously presented)** A method according to claim 16 wherein said bioactive agent is introduced into said cell by introducing a vector comprising nucleic acid encoding said candidate bioactive agent.

20. **(Previously presented)** A method according to claim 19 wherein a library of retroviral vectors comprising a library of candidate bioactive agents is added to a population of cells.

21. **(Previously presented)** A method according to claim 19 wherein said vector further comprises a detection gene.

22. **(Canceled)**

23-29. **(Canceled)**

30. **(Previously presented)** A method according to claim 16, wherein said fluorescent protein is Green Fluorescent Protein (GFP).

31. **(Previously presented)** A method according to claim 35, wherein said fluorescent protein gene is Green Fluorescent Protein (GFP).

32. **(Previously presented)** A method according to claim 35, wherein said fluorescent protein gene is Blue Fluorescent Protein (BFP).

33. **(Previously presented)** A method according to claim 35, wherein said fluorescent protein gene is Yellow Fluorescent Protein (YFP).

34. **(Previously presented)** A method according to claim 35, wherein said fluorescent protein gene is Red Fluorescent Protein (RFP).

35. **(Previously presented)** A method according to claim 16, wherein a fluorescent protein gene is incorporated into the ε heavy chain genomic coding region.

36. **(Previously presented)** A method according to claim 35, wherein said fluorescent protein gene is attached to the ε heavy chain secretory exon.

37. **(Previously presented)** A method according to claim 35, wherein said fluorescent protein gene is attached to a ε heavy chain membrane exon.

38. **(Previously presented)** A method according to claim 35, wherein said IgE fusion protein comprises a second fluorescent protein gene incorporated into the ε heavy chain genomic coding region.

39. **(Previously presented)** A method according to claim 38, wherein said fluorescent protein gene is attached to the ε heavy chain secretory exon and said second fluorescent protein gene is attached to a ε heavy chain membrane exon.

40. **(Previously presented)** A method according to claim 16, wherein said difference in the amount of said IgE fusion protein expressed is determined by measuring the expression of said fluorescent protein.

41. **(Previously presented)** A method according to claim 19, wherein said vector is a retroviral vector.

42. **(Previously presented)** A method according to claim 20, wherein said library of vectors is a library of retroviral vectors.